

Pastor Gerry Leblanc of City Impact Church Moncton preaches heresy concerning the Person and Work of Jesus Christ.

by Danny Lurette

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Let me state from the beginning that while the title of this article is meant to bring a “shock and awe” factor, I in no way believe that Pastor Gerry Leblanc of City Impact Church Moncton is deliberately attacking the Cross of Jesus Christ; I believe and am fully convinced that his view of the Cross is a misunderstanding of what Jesus accomplished. Pastor Gerry Leblanc holds to classic Word of Faith heresy concerning the Atonement of Jesus Christ.

After Pastor Donny Legere resigned from Moncton’s City Impact Church, Pastor Gerry Leblanc became it’s new Senior Pastor. Under the ministry of Donny Legere, the church suffered greatly as he was full of the love of money and walked in a spirit of pride. Due to this, he fell into sin and was exposed – as I prophesied would take place [here](#).

Now that Pastor Gerry is here in Moncton, leading City Impact Church, it was hoped that the church would experience a freshness. Unfortunately, Pastor Gerry’s view on the central theme of Scripture – the Person and Work of Jesus Christ – is blatant heresy as I will demonstrate in this article.

On November 22nd, 2015, Pastor Gerry Leblanc preached a message titled “Why the Cross?” and stated the following (click play):

<http://danlurette.faith/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/gerry-1.mp3>

(To watch the entire sermon video, click [here](#)) – UPDATE: The video has since been removed by City Impact Church.

Did you hear that? Pastor Gerry states that Jesus “became vile to God”. I’m not sure how to even respond to such a blasphemous statement. The Son of God “became vile to God”?!! No sir! The Lord Jesus Christ always pleased the Father:

John 8:29 “And the one who sent me is with me-he has not deserted me. For I always do what pleases him.”

The Lord Jesus always pleased His Heavenly Father. Always means always. There was never a time that the Father looked on Jesus and said, “My Son is vile!”. To even suggest such a thing is in direct opposition to the Word of God as we will see. I shouldn’t even have to prove this point from the Scripture; it should be basic Christian knowledge. However, when one swallows the heretical teachings of men such as E.W Kenyon, Kenneth Hagin, Kenneth Copeland, Joyce Meyer and

others they come out with statements which turn the Son of God into a vile filthy thing to look on. Amazing how anyone can make such statements about the Sinless Son of God! (Click here to learn more about the Word of Faith Movement and its leaders)

Pastor Gerry then states that Jesus Christ “died spiritually” and the curse separated Jesus from the Heavenly Father ‘in His Spirit’. This is absolutely blasphemous. While Gerry doesn’t understand what he’s saying in this statement, the spirits who gave him this teaching know exactly what is being taught. He comes to this conclusion, not on his own, but via the “Jesus Died Spiritually” teaching of the Word of Faith Heretics. They claim that since Jesus took our sins, it goes to reason that He died spiritually. Is this Biblical? No.

1 Timothy 4:1 “Now the Holy Spirit tells us clearly that in the last times some will turn away from the true faith; they will follow deceptive spirits and teachings that come from demons.”

Yes, Jesus Christ took our sins and yes He asked, “Why have You forsaken Me?” ... but He did not take our sins in His spirit; He took our sins in His physical body on the Cross. The Father had to turn away, so to speak, from looking on His Son when His Son took our sins in His body. The Scripture bears witness to this. Does anyone truly believe that God the Father looked on His Only Begotten Son as Pastor Gerry Leblanc and other Word of Faith teachers claim? It’s utterly blasphemous to hold to such a twisted view and shows a lack of understanding on the Atonement of Jesus Christ.

We see the Plan of Redemption clearly laid out in 1 Peter 2:24-25 which says:

“He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By his wounds you are healed. Once you were like sheep who wandered away. But now you have turned to your Shepherd, the Guardian of your souls.”

In 1 Peter 1:18-19 we read, “For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.”

Notice how Jesus took our sins and where He took our sins.

1- In His body - not His Spirit

2- On the Cross by shedding His physical Blood - not in Hell

Our Salvation was not paid for by Jesus taking our sins in His Spirit and nor did He finish His Work in Hell; it was accomplished on the Cross alone. Not a single

reference in the Word of God teaches that Jesus died spiritually or went to Hell and suffered for us. In fact, as we will see, He declared His victory “over” Hell!

Pastor Gerry Leblanc then states that what is meant by “Firstborn from the dead” as found in Revelation 1:4 is physical resurrection and as a result of this false understanding of the verse, he continues in his teaching on Jesus having died spiritually. What Gerry does not realize is that the term “Firstborn from the dead” does not mean physical resurrection alone; it indicates being the firstborn as a son; an heir to the Father’s inheritance as is clearly laid out in the Old Testament.

“The title “firstborn of the dead” for Jesus is of great theological importance, especially with Easter in the background. The Greek word for “firstborn” that John uses is *prototokos*, a word that literally refers to birth order—the first child born. This is a concept of great significance in the Old Testament, where the firstborn son inherited his father’s place as head of the family, receiving the father’s blessing and a double portion of the inheritance (Deuteronomy 21:17). After the Passover in Egypt, God told his people that every firstborn child was set aside as his own (Exodus 13:2), and the nation of Israel as a whole was referred to as God’s “firstborn son” (Exodus 4:22). Because of the biblical significance attached to the concept, the word “firstborn” acquired a metaphorical sense and came to also refer to the special status of the firstborn as the preeminent son and heir. In the New Testament, Jesus is shown to be the “new Israel,” the culmination and fulfillment of God’s promise to bless all the nations through the offspring of Abraham (Galatians 3:7). Jesus fulfills the intended role of Israel as God’s faithful firstborn son in his perfect life and sacrificial death, and he is vindicated by God in his glorious resurrection. In referring to Jesus as the firstborn of the dead, John is drawing words and imagery from Psalms 89:1 which celebrates the kingship of David and his line with phrases like “the firstborn,” “the highest of the kings of the earth,” and the idea that the Messiah’s throne will be a “faithful witness in the sky.” Calling Jesus firstborn portrays him as the heir of David, exalted and lifted up as the representative of his people.”

(Click [here](#) for source)

Due to Pastor’s Gerry’s mis-understanding of what the term “Firstborn from the dead” signifies in the Scripture, he has concluded that Jesus Christ died spiritually; a doctrine which cannot be substantiated anywhere in the Word. In fact, the very opposite is the case. Christ bore our sins in His body on the Cross; at no time did He somehow “die spiritually”. Such an idea is foreign to Biblical Christianity.

Gerry Leblanc states: "His Spirit was vile, it was deformed, cause sin had taken it over."

Sin most certainly did not "take over" the Spirit of Jesus! Further, Jesus' Spirit was most certainly not "vile and deformed". This is utter blasphemy! Jesus Christ was sinless ... and was never at any point "vile" or "deformed" and never at any point did sin "take over" the Spirit of Jesus.

Pastor Gerry further states: "When He entered Hell, Hell did not recognize that God had just entered Hell... 'cause it was so deformed He went undercover". Who was He disguised as? He was disguised as you; He was disguised as a sinner."

Huh? That's quite an imagination! Where does this even come from?! This is utter nonsense. "So deformed that Hell couldn't recognize Jesus Christ, the One who created Hell? I don't think so! We're talking here about God's only Begotten Son; the Sinless Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Yes, Jesus did enter into Hell... but it wasn't to suffer as a vile and deformed spiritually dead person:

In Ephesians 4:8-10 we read these words: "That is why the Scriptures say, "When he ascended to the heights, he led a crowd of captives and gave gifts to his people." Notice that it says "he ascended." This clearly means that Christ also descended to our lowly world. And the same one who descended is the one who ascended higher than all the heavens, so that he might fill the entire universe with himself."

Contrary to Hell not recognizing Jesus, the hosts of Hell indeed recognized Jesus because the Scripture states that He victoriously descended into Hell; not suffered there (He suffered on the Cross alone!):

1 Peter 3:18-20 "Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the Spirit. So he went and preached to the spirits in prison— those who disobeyed God long ago when God waited patiently while Noah was building his boat. Only eight people were saved from drowning in that terrible flood."

Notice that Jesus suffered "physical" death; not spiritual death. Notice also that when He entered into Hell it was to preach. Nothing about suffering here! He declared His victory over death; death certainly did not declare any victory over Him! Hell didn't hold Jesus; in fact, He was never there for any amount of time "except" to declare His Victory; He certainly wasn't there at any point suffering. Indeed, the moment He died for our sins, He went immediately to Heaven!:

Jesus said these words to the repentant thief on the Cross:

“And Jesus replied, “I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.” (Luke 23:43)

Where is Paradise?

“Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches. To everyone who is victorious I will give fruit from the tree of life in the paradise of God.” (Revelation 2:7)

Paradise – the place Jesus Christ went to the very day He died – is Heaven.

So much for the false and heretical teaching that Jesus went to Hell as a vile and deformed spiritually dead person. It never happened; the Word is more than abundantly clear on this as we have just seen.

In John 14:30, Jesus Christ says, “I don’t have much more time to talk to you, because the ruler of this world approaches. He has no power over me.”

The evil one – satan – had “no” power over Jesus. No power means no power. Not on earth, not in Hell... nowhere. Jesus wasn’t at the mercy of Hell; Hell was created by Jesus:

Matthew 25:41 “Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, ‘Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons.’

Hell was made by Jesus for the devil and demons and all who follow them; it certainly had no power over Jesus Christ. To even suggest such a thing shows one’s lack of knowing what the Gospel is.

It’s clear – and unfortunately so – that Pastor Gerry Leblanc of Moncton’s City Impact Church, preaches a Christ whom we simply cannot find in the Scripture. While Pastor Gerry preaches a form of the Cross, he adds to the Gospel by presenting Christ as a “vile, deformed, spiritually dead” person who not only took our sins in His body on the Cross but also in His Spirit. Such a gospel is not the Gospel of Jesus Christ and therefore cannot save:

Galatians 1:8-9 “Let God’s curse fall on anyone, including us or even an angel from heaven, who preaches a different kind of Good News than the one we preached to you. I say again what we have said before: If anyone preaches any other Good News than the one you welcomed, let that person be cursed.”

There is but one Gospel; not two or three or four. There are most certainly counterfeit gospels but only one Gospel which saves. The gospel that Pastor

Gerry Leblanc has presented is not the Gospel we find in the Word of God. We're warned about such things in the Scripture:

2 Corinthians 11:4 "You happily put up with whatever anyone tells you, even if they preach a different Jesus than the one we preach, or a different kind of Spirit than the one you received, or a different kind of gospel than the one you believed."

The jesus being preached at City Impact Church is not the Jesus of the Word of God. There are elements of the true Gospel being presented yet the additions and subtractions to the truth of Scripture are concerning. To claim Christ became "vile, deformed and spiritually dead" places one outside of Biblical Christianity in regard to Salvation - to the Atonement. Their's is a false gospel with a false christ. It's certainly not the victorious Christ we read of in the Gospels.

I would encourage any and all who are considering attending City Impact Church to pray, fast and seek the face of God before making such a detrimental decision. In attending such a fellowship you align yourself with a false christ, a false spirit and a false gospel. I am certainly not suggesting that those who attend are not genuinely Born Again; however, accepting a "vile, deformed and spiritually dead" Christ as your gospel will indeed damn you. One must come to the Christ of Scripture to be saved; we cannot hold to a false Christ:

John 8:24 "That is why I said that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I Am who I claim to be, you will die in your sins."

The jesus of Pastor Gerry Leblanc is not the Jesus who Jesus Himself claimed to be. This is clear.

In conclusion, I pray that Pastor Gerry Leblanc of City Impact Church considers what he holds to as truth and repents of this error. In doing so, he'll save both himself and those who sit under his ministry:

1 Timothy 4:16 "Keep a close watch on how you live and on your teaching. Stay true to what is right for the sake of your own salvation and the salvation of those who hear you."

**For a full listing of Word of Faith Teachings and Leaders, click [here](#)
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